U.S. Embassy Brazzaville, Congo Security Message for U.S. Citizens: Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) Update August 22, 2014

The U. S. Embassy would like to share with U.S. citizens living in the Republic of the Congo guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) regarding the Ebola virus and suggested precautions for travelers who have visited Liberia, Sierra Leone, Guinea, and Nigeria.

At this time, there have been no confirmed cases of Ebola in Congo-Brazzaville. However, if persons returning from a country that has reported confirmed cases of Ebola and have not had direct contact with the body fluids of symptomatic infected persons or animals, or objects that have been contaminated with body fluids, should monitor their health for ten days. For complete up-to-date guidance, please check the CDC website directly or call 1-800-CDC-INFO (1-800-232-4636) from within the United States, or 1-404-639-3534 from overseas.

The U.S. government through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is working closely with the Congolese government and understands the Congolese government is developing contingency plans on this issue. Screening of passengers and crew from affected countries is being put in place at Maya-Maya Airport.

More information about the disease can be found at:

http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/about.html
http://www.who.int/csr/disease/ebola/ebola-faq-en.pdf?ua=1

All U.S. citizens in the Republic of Congo are urged to register online at the <u>Smart Traveler Enrollment Program</u> (STEP). Registering gives U.S. citizens access to updated information on travel and security within the Congo and makes it easier for the Embassy to contact citizens in case of emergency.

You can stay in touch and get Embassy updates by checking the website of the <u>U.S. Embassy in The Republic of the Congo</u>. You can also get global updates at the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Consular Affairs website where you can find the current <u>Worldwide Caution</u>, <u>Travel Warnings</u>, <u>Travel Alerts</u>, and <u>Country Specific Information</u>. Follow us on <u>Twitter</u> and the ACS Congo page on <u>Facebook</u> as well to have travel information at your fingertips.

If you don't have internet access, current information on safety and security can also be obtained by calling 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the United States and Canada, or, for callers from other countries, a regular toll line at 1-202-501-4444. These numbers are available from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays).

The U.S. Embassy is located on Boulevard Denis Sassou Nguesso across from the Blanche Gomez Maternity Hospital. The Consular Section is open Monday-Thursday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and on Fridays from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. The Consular section can be reached via e-mail at BrazzavilleACS@state.gov, and our daytime telephone number is (+242) 06 612-2000. For after-hours emergencies, call (+242) 06 612-2010.